

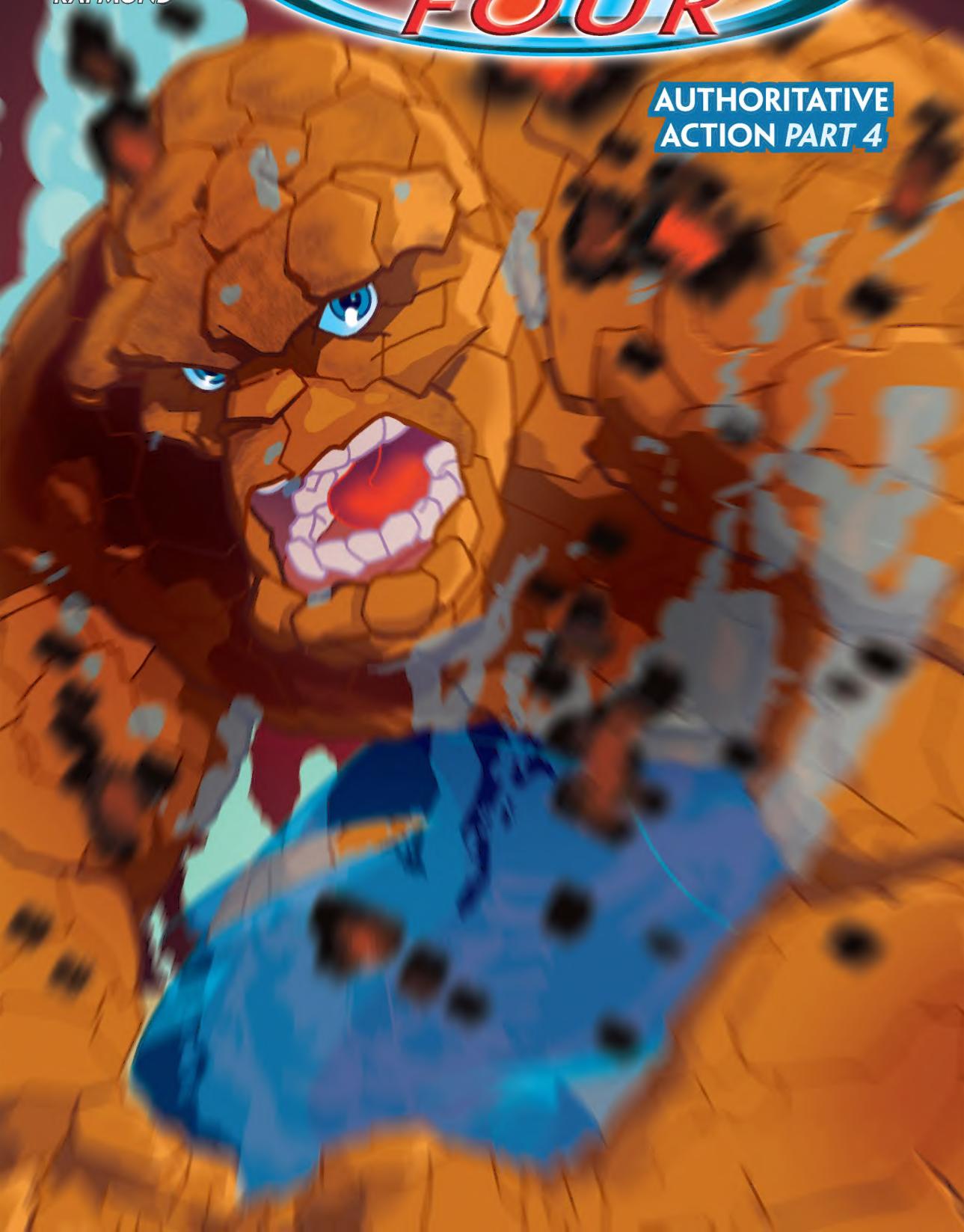
MARVEL

506

WAID
PORTER
RAPMUND

FANTASTIC FOUR®

AUTHORITATIVE
ACTION PART 4



THE FANTASTIC FOUR

1

A team—and a family—of adventurers, explorers and imaginauts, the Fantastic Four lead lives both ordinary—and extraordinary. As of today:

2

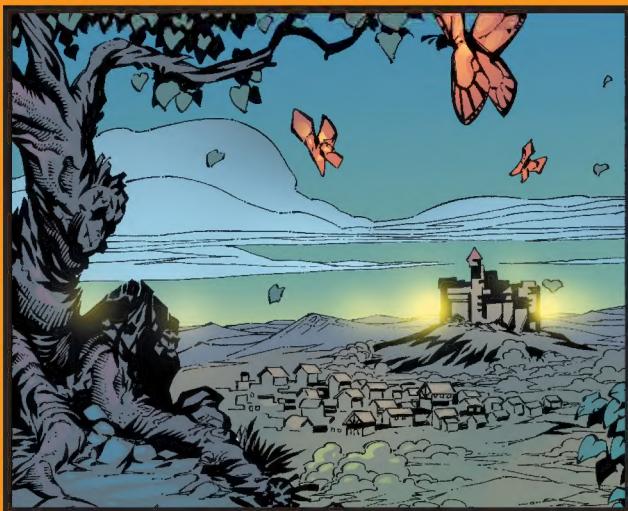
For years, the small European nation of Latveria has been under the tyrannical rule of Victor Von Doom. Recently, in a climactic battle that left his face scarred, Reed banished Doom to Hell—

3

—then appointed himself Latveria's new monarch and began systematically turning the populace against their former leader, making it impossible for Doom to ever reclaim his throne should he ever return. The longer Reed remains in power, however, the more dictatorial his own behavior becomes—

4

—something that has not gone unnoticed by the United Nations—or their spokesman, Col. Nick Fury.



STAN LEE PRESENTS

"AUTHORITATIVE ACTION"

Part
4 of 6



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the ultimate authority

In the years before the tyrant Doom was removed from his throne, there were certain words that had become almost obsolete in idyllic Latveria.

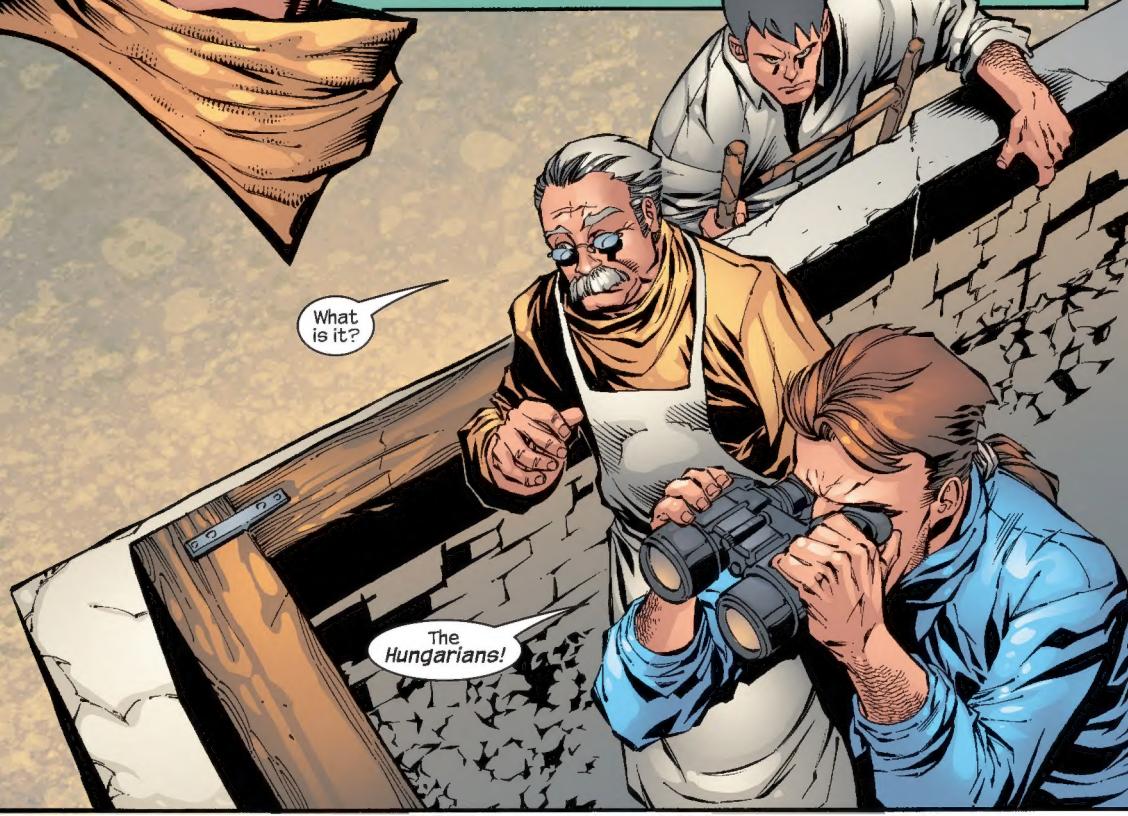
One such:

BAKERY





Their entire lives, our children learned from their elders not to harm others for fear of punishment. We have taught you no grander motives.





"...West."



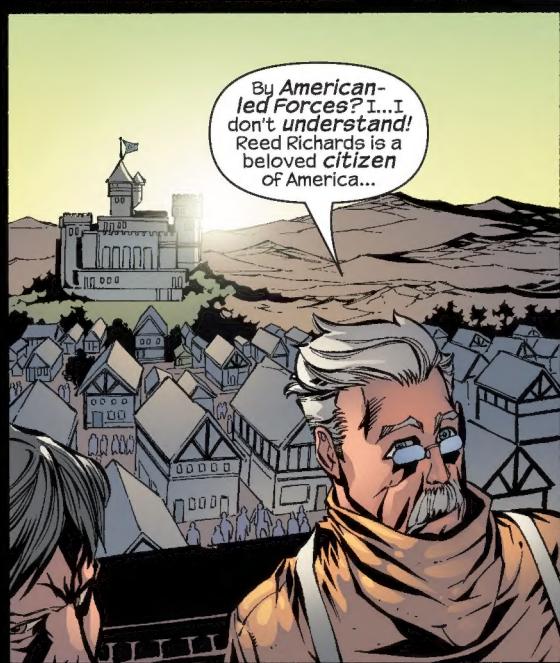
The United States...? But Latveria is a member nation of the U.N.

...with no acting ambassador. Radio Free Europe reports that we have consequently been deemed "politically unstable" and targeted for invasion!

--under the command of American General Ulysses Chapman, poised to liberate Latveria--

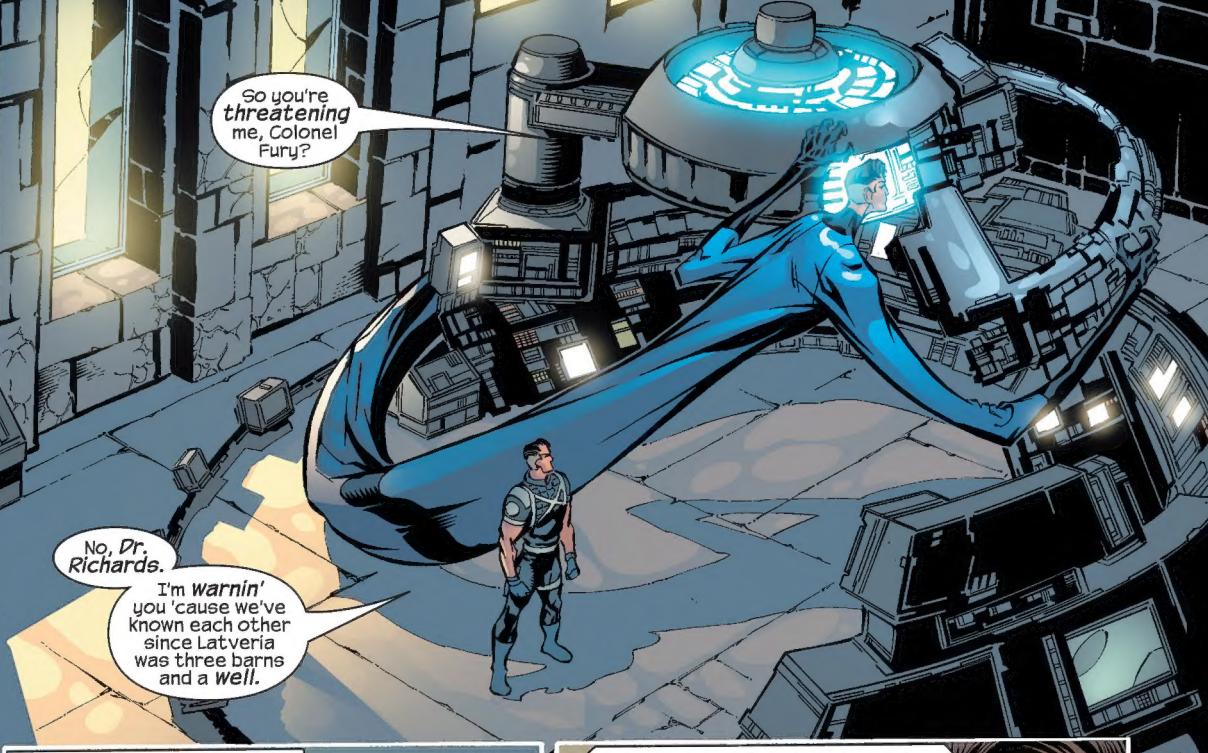


By American-led Forces? I...I don't understand! Reed Richards is a beloved citizen of America...



...but not its self-appointed representative. Not by a long shot.





And then
what? You station
multinational
soldiers in the
streets?

Nick, this
isn't *Iraq*. Latveria
is a highly self-sufficient
nation with no racial
issues and a stable
economy.

The U.N.
could very easily
put a *worse*
government
in charge.

Yes, there's still work
to be done. I've only
begun to dispose
of Doom's arsenal.

Still, with
Sue and Johnny's
help, I've already
established a **national**
trust for export revenue.
Money is no longer being
routed into Doom's
personal **coffers**.

Instead, it's
going towards
training and selecting
locals capable
of **internal**
leadership.

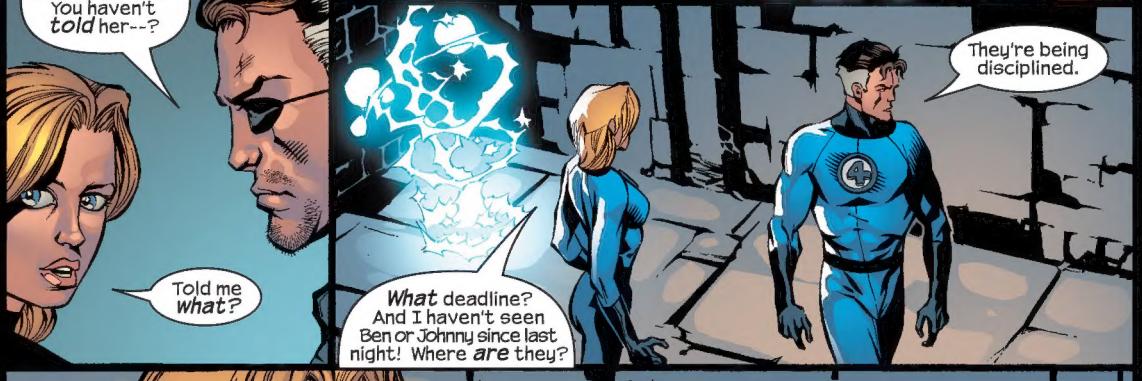
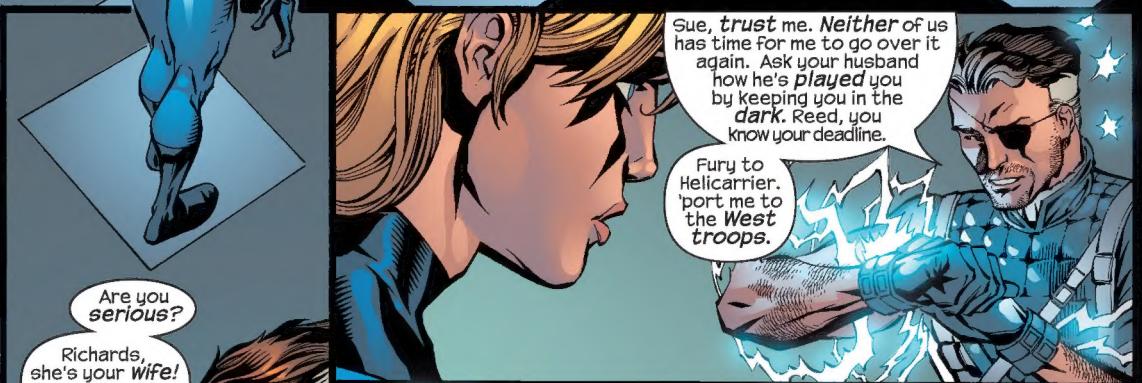
To
take office
when?

When I
say they're
ready.

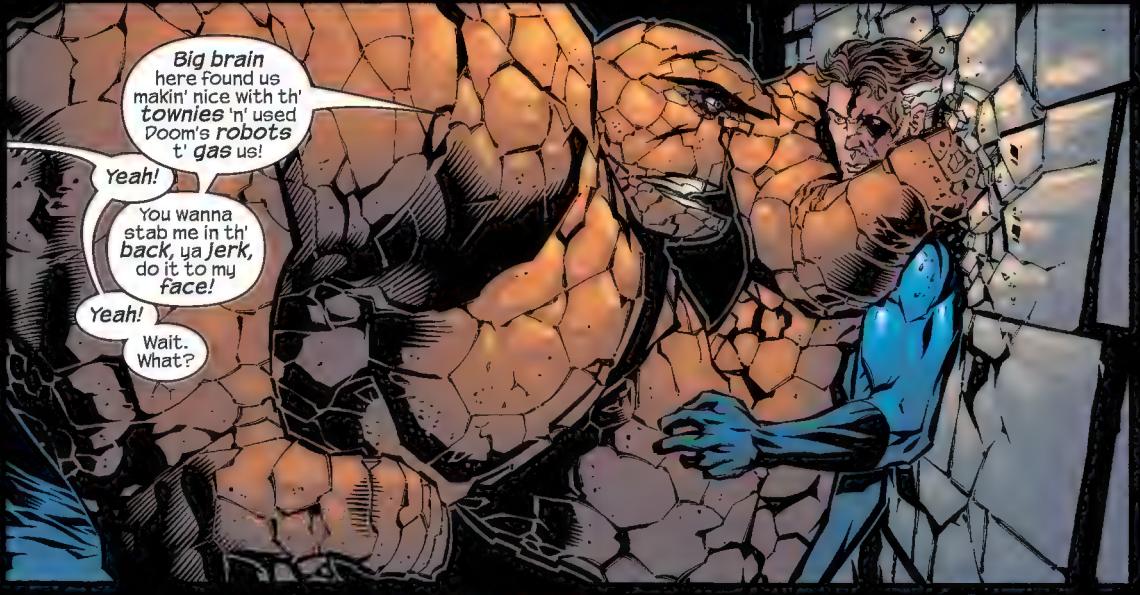
That's
**not your
call!**
Allied powers
are perfectly capable
of organizing **fair elections**!
Occupation helped democratize
West Germany and Japan
after World War Two--

--and failed
miserably in
Cambodia
and Haiti.



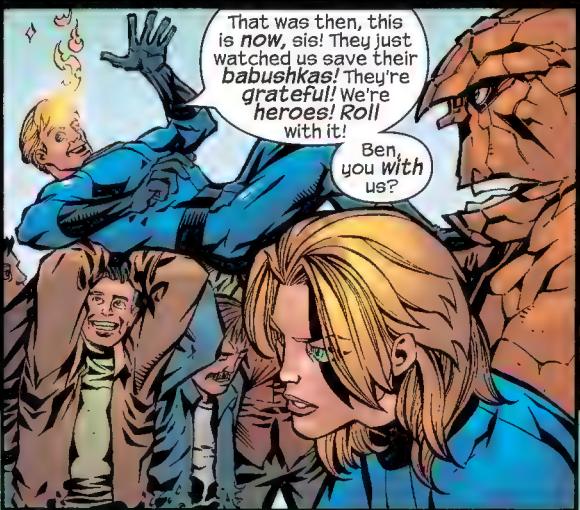




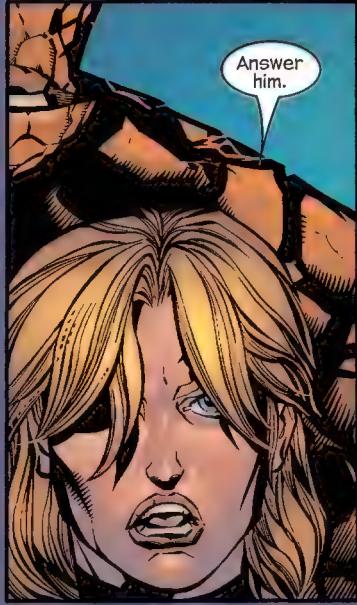




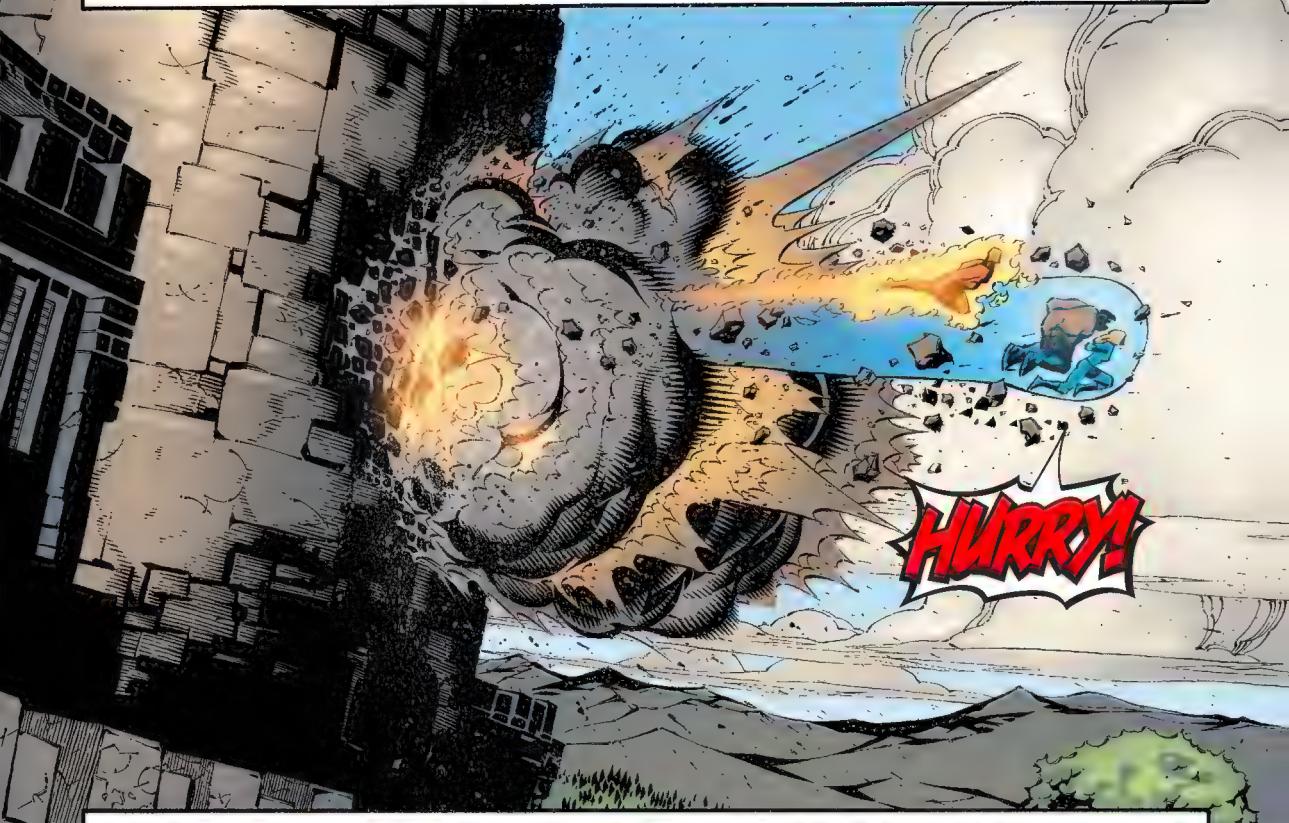












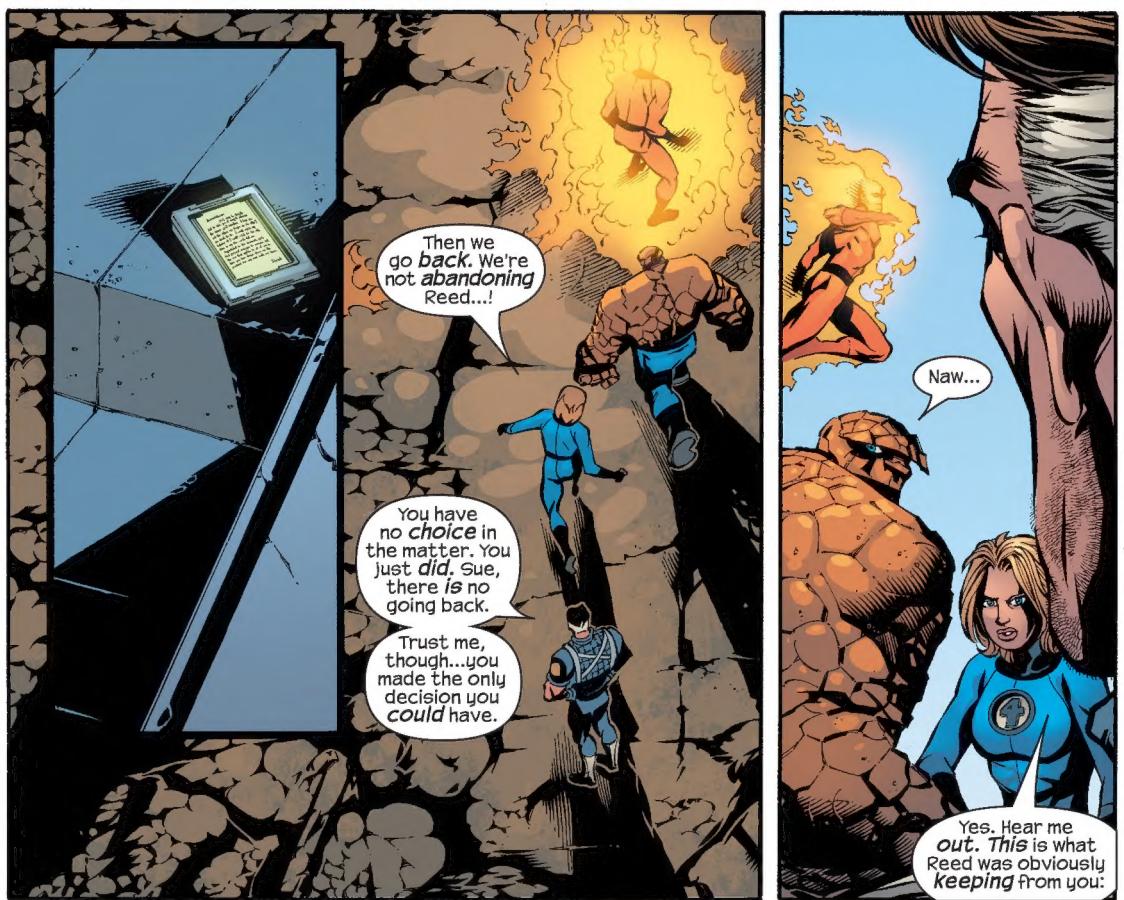


had to drive you all away to eliminate
the chance you'd interfere. I hope you
and the others can forgive me for what I
am about to do. I would explain my
behavior if I could -- but for the only
time in my life, words fail me.

Hyperlinked to this document, you'll
find personal messages to everyone, but
the one that applies to all of you is
this: you have always shown me the
greatest love any man could ever know.

Reed





As far as the American government is concerned, your unsupervised, unsanctioned *activities* in Latveria have branded you as *agents of a foreign power*.

If you don't come with me right now—if you take one step towards that border—

—you will, like Dr. Richards, be apprehended, charged with, and—I promise you—

—convicted of treason against the United States of America.

"Not this time."

TO BE CONTINUED...